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LETTER DATED 8 SEPTEMBER 1997 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO
THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention the following instances of violations by Iraq of the terms of the ceasefire between the two countries.

1. On 19 January 1997, at 1500 hours, three Iraqi soldiers, stationed around the geographic coordinates of 38S ND 4200005000 on the map of Khosravi, north of border pillar 53/2 in no man's land, while observing the area mounted a machine-gun on the roof of the Mandaria sentry post.
2. On 26 January 1997, at 1300 hours, an Iraqi mechanical shovel was observed excavating at the geographic coordinates of 38S NC 5100036000 on the map of Sumar, west of border pillar 40/4.
3. On 29 January 1997, five Iraqi soldiers entered the area around the geographic coordinates of 38S NC 5710038600 on the map of Sumar, west of border pillar 40/4, and stationed themselves there.
4. On 30 January 1997, three senior Iraqi officers visited the Mandaria sentry post at the geographical coordinates of 38S ND 4200005000 on the map of Khosravi, north of border pillar 53/2, in no man's land.
5. On 30 January 1997, five Iraqi vehicles, carrying 10 soldiers and a number of Iraqi tribesmen, entered the area at the geographical coordinates of 38S NC 6160025600 and 38S NC 6800021000 on the map of Kani Sheikh, south of the Ghalalem sentry post and border pillar 39/1, and stationed themselves there.
6. On 31 January 1997, at 1450 hours, an unidentified aircraft was observed flying, from the north-west to the south, over the Hoor al-Hovaiza area.
7. On 1 February 1997, at 0100 hours, the guards from the Dirifarm coastal sentry post of Khorramshahr observed a diver in the marshlands adjacent to the dock. As a result of the reaction of the guards, the diver retreated.

8. On 1 February 1997, at 1300 and 1430 hours, Iraqi troops based across from the floating dock in Khosro-Abad, around the geographical coordinates of 39R TP 4000051000 on the map of Abadan, twice set fire in the marshlands and palm-groves in their own territory.
9. On 1 February 1997, at 2045 hours, four Iraqi boats were observed moving around the geographical coordinates of 38R QV 5500053000 on the map west of Jofeir-2, south of border pillar 14/A5, in no man's land.
10. On 3 February 1997, at 1200 hours, three Iraqi soldiers with two head of cattle were observed around south Naft-Shahr, between border pillars 44/8 and 44/9. They left the area after an hour.
11. On 3 February 1997, at 1550 hours, the guards from the Dirifarm coastal sentry post observed an Iraqi patrol consisting of three soldiers at a distance of 800 metres from the post. As a result of the reaction of the guards, the Iraqi soldiers retreated to the marshlands.
12. On 4 February 1997, at 0230 hours, three Iraqi soldiers were twice observed to the west and also the east of the Hodood border post in the Khorramshahr area. As a result of the reaction of the guards, the Iraqi soldiers fled back.
13. On 5 February 1997, at 1630 hours, a number of armed Iraqi smugglers were intercepted by the Iranian border guards at the geographical coordinates of 38S ND 6960025600 on the map of Ghalama, east of border pillar 60/3. As a result of the exchange of gunfire which ensued, they fled back into Iraqi territory, leaving behind one Kalashnikov.
14. On 6 February 1997, at 0400 hours, three unmarked boats, each carrying three individuals, approached the Iranian sentry post located south of Hoor al-Hovaiza and were intercepted by the Iranian border guards. Following the reaction of Iranian forces, the boats fled back.
15. On 7 February 1997, an Iraqi helicopter was observed patrolling north of the Khaneghein area and over the Khosravi heights on the other side of the border.
16. On 9 February 1997, at 0800 hours, Iraqi troops were observed levelling the area south of the Iraqi Mandaria post at the geographical coordinates of 38S ND 4200004000 on the map of Khosravi, south of border pillar 53/2, in no man's land.
17. On 9 February 1997, at 0115 hours, a number of Iraqi smugglers intending to enter Iranian territory were intercepted by the Iranian border guards at a distance of about 500 metres from the Iranian Shaheed Assadpour sentry post and subsequently fled back into Iraqi territory.
18. On 9 February 1997, at 1130 hours, three Iraqi vehicles, two of them minibuses, carrying 14 individuals were observed moving at the geographical coordinates of 38S NC 4500099500 on the map of Khosravi, south-west of border pillar 51-52 in no man's land.

19. On 9 February 1997, at 1530 hours, three individuals wearing military clothing fired in the direction of the Iranian border guards at the geographical coordinates of 38S ND 6650029700 on the map of Ghasr-e-Shirin, north and south of border pillars 66/5 and 66/6. Faced with the response of the Iranian guards, they fled back into Iraqi territory.

20. On 9 February 1997, 1645 hours, five Iraqi soldiers were seen constructing embankments at the geographical coordinates of 38S NC 5300096000 on the map of Kharatha, west of border pillar 47, in no man's land.

21. On 9 February 1997, at 1800 hours, 30 Iraqi personnel began erecting three tents at the geographical coordinates of 38S NC 3680099400, on the map of Khosravi, west of border pillars 51 and 52.

22. On 10 February 1997, at 0950 hours, four senior Iraqi officers visited the Iraqi Mandaria sentry post at the geographical coordinates of 38S ND 4200005000 on the map of Khosravi, west of border pillar 53/2 in no man's land. They left the area at 1200 hours on the same day.

23. On 10 February 1997, at 0950 hours, an Iraqi trailer carrying one loader was observed moving across from Ghasr-e-Shirin.

24. On 12 February 1997, at 2000 and 2040 hours, the sound of three mortar rounds was heard and two illuminators were seen around the geographical coordinates of 38R QV 5600073000 and 38R QV 5500073000 on the map south of Hoor al-Hovaiza, south-west and east of border pillar 14B.

25. On 12 February 1997, at 1040 hours, the sound of an extensive explosion around the geographical coordinates of 39R TQ 1550003000 on the map of Nim-Eistgah-Navad, north of border pillar 7/14, in no man's land was heard.

26. On 12 February 1997, at 0950 hours, five Iraqi vehicles, including one minibus carrying 23 individuals, were observed moving at the geographical coordinates of 38S NC 4500099000 on the map of Khosravi, south of border pillars 51 and 52, in no man's land.

27. On 13 February 1997, Iraqi personnel began setting up a four-person tent at the geographical coordinates of 38S NC 5269996200 on the map of Kharatha, in no man's land south and north of border pillars 47 and 48, across from the Amina central post. The camouflaged tent was set 100 metres away from the border pillar and served as a base for photographing Iranian helicopters.

28. On 13 February 1997, at 1200 hours, five Iraqi motor boats approached the sunken vessels at the geographical coordinates of 39R TP 3700059000 on the map of Abadan, in the Arvand Rud. After having dropped the individuals aboard, the boats left the area.

29. On 14 February 1997, at 0915 hours, an Iraqi helicopter was observed flying deep in the Hoor al-Hovaiza area on the other side of the border.

30. On 15 February 1997, six Iraqi personnel began setting up a tent at the geographical coordinates of 38S NC 4300082000 on the map of Naft-Shahr.

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31. On 15 February 1997, 25 to 30 Iraqi personnel were observed training at the geographical coordinates of 38S ND 3900012000 on the map of Khosravi, between border pillars 56 and 56/1, across from Darband-Joogh in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

32. On 16 February 1997, at 0800 hours, one grader, one IFA vehicle and a number of Iraqi troops were observed levelling the area south of the Iraqi Mandaria post at the geographical coordinates of 38S ND 4200004000 on the map of Khosravi, south of border pillar 53/2, in no man's land.

33. On 16 February 1997, Iraqi personnel fired bullets and illuminators in the Hoor al-Hovaiza area.

34. On 16 February 1997, an unidentified aircraft was heard flying over the Faw area, on the other side of the border.

35. On 15 February 1997, four Iraqi troops aboard two boats were observed in the Hoor al-Hovaiza area, across from Ghamar-Banihashem base.

36. On 16 February 1997, four Iraqi boats, having infiltrated into the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran, intended to approach the Iranian border guard at the geographical coordinates of 38R QV 5700059000 on the map west of Jofeir-2, north of border pillar 14/A5. Faced with the response of the Iranian forces, the boats fled away.

37. On 16 February 1997, Iraqi forces stationed at the Sadr-Arafat sentry post, at the geographical coordinates of 38S NB 9700065000 on the map of Mehran between border pillars 30/1 and 31, were reinforced.

38. On 17 February 1997, at 1030 hours, 10 Iraqi personnel removed a tent at the geographical coordinates of 38S ND 3750001600 on the map of Khosravi, north-west of border pillar 53. Thereafter, they began setting up two tents at the geographical coordinates of 38S NC 6100023000 on the map of Kani-Sheikh.

39. On 17 February 1997, at 1550 hours, an Iraqi vessel, manned with six individuals, were observed moving towards Khorramshahr from the Iraqi border.

40. On 17 February 1997, from 1630 to 1650 hours, an Iraqi helicopter was observed flying over and patrolling the Doraji, Mohammad Ghassem and Zorbatia sentry posts of Iraq.

41. On 17 February 1997, at 1940 hours, Iranian border guards came under fire by Iraqi troops with light arms at the geographical coordinates of 38R QV 5500044000 on the map of Jofeir-2, north of border pillar 14/A3, in no man's land.

42. On 17 February 1997, a number of Iraqi vehicles, each carrying between three and eight individuals, were observed moving on the roads of Naft-Shahr, Khosravi and Sumar.

43. On 17 February 1997, a number of Iraqi workers were observed repairing and constructing the road around the Iraqi Mandaria sentry post at the geographical

coordinates of 38S ND 4300004000 on the map of Khosravi, across from the Iranian Velayat-Gashteh sentry post, between border pillars 53 and 53/1 in no man's land.

44. On 18 February 1997, at 1800 hours, Iraqi troops installed a Grinov machine-gun on the roof of the Mandaria sentry post at the geographical coordinates of 38S ND 4200005000 on the map of Khosravi, north of border pillar 53/2, in no man's land. Three soldiers constituting the crew of the machine-guns are always present at the observation tower.

45. On 18 February 1997, five Iraqi vehicles - one of them equipped with a machine-gun - carrying 20 to 30 individuals, were observed moving from the geographical coordinates of 38S ND 6200025000 on the map of Ghasr-e-Shirin, north of Majid-Ghadir-Agha, to the geographical coordinates of 38S ND 5300025000 on the map of Ghasr-e-Shirin, north of the Piroz-Khan sentry post.

46. On 18 February 1997, 10 Iraqi soldiers using a crane and a trailer moved one container from the Halvan three-way intersection at the geographical coordinates of 38S ND 3800001000 on the map of Khosravi, west of border pillars 53 and 53/1, to Khaneghein.

47. On 18 February 1997, an Iraqi helicopter was observed flying in the Velayat-Gashteh area of the Islamic Republic of Iran at the geographical coordinates of 38S ND 3900003000 on the map of Khosravi, west of border pillar 53/1.

48. On 19 February 1997, at 1320 hours, an Iraqi patrol unit consisting of four soldiers left the geographical coordinates of 38S NC 4770054400 on the map of Sumar, north-west of border pillar 44/7, in no man's land. After two hours of patrolling at the geographical coordinates of 38S NC 4460050400 on the map of Naft-Shahr, south of border pillar 44/10, the Iraqi personnel returned to their earlier position.

49. On 19 February 1997, at 1530 hours, two unidentified aircraft were observed flying from east to west at the geographical coordinates of 38R QV 5400072000 on the map south of Hoor al-Hovaiza and border pillar 14B.

50. On 19 February 1997, Iraqi troops began building one embankment 1,500 metres long as well as six hills, at a distance of between 200 and 500 metres from Arvand Rud, across from Khorso-Abad in the Abadan area.

51. On 22 February 1997, at 0740 hours, an Iraqi military loader along with three Iraqi Kurds were observed dismantling strongholds and collecting scraps in no man's land across from Ghasr-e-Shirin.

52. On 22 February 1997, at 1240 hours, an Iraqi grader was observed operating in no man's land across from the Khorramshahr border.

53. On 25 February 1997, at 0120 hours, a loud explosion was heard from inside Iraqi territory around the geographical coordinates of 39R TQ 1500002000 on the map of Nim-Eistgah-Navad, north of border pillars 7/13 and 7/14 in no man's land.

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54. On 25 February 1997, at 0915 hours, an Iraqi IFA vehicle carrying 15 individuals left Mandali for the Sumar region. It dropped six individuals at the geographical coordinates of 38S NC 5400039000 on the map of Sumar, west of border pillar 40/5, and left the area after a while.

55. On 27 February 1997, at 1200 hours, an Iraqi jeep carrying six individuals was observed moving at the geographical coordinates of 38S ND 6100024000 on the map of Ghasr-e-Shirin, north of Berar-Aziz in no man's land. At the same time, 12 explosions were heard in the area.

56. On 27 February 1997, at 1900 hours, an Iraqi helicopter landed across from Hamrein heights (the Anbar River region), inside Iraqi territory. It left the area after a while.

57. On 27 February 1997, around 20 Iraqi troops were observed moving and patrolling around the geographical coordinates of 39R QA 8000340000, 38R QA 6300028000 and 38R TQ 1400012000 on the map north of Hoor al-Hovaiza, west of border pillars 18/3 and 7/20 and south and south-west of border pillars 21/1, 21/2 and 21/3.

58. On 28 February 1997, eight Iraqi vehicles were observed moving on the roads surrounding Naft-Shahr.

It would be highly appreciated if the text of the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Majid TAKHT-RAVANCHI
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
